

DORIANA

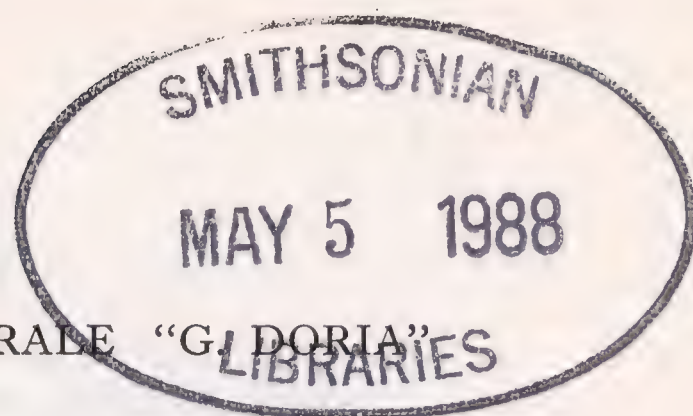
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ANNALI DEL MUSEO CIVICO DI STORIA NATURALE "G. DORIA"

G E N O V A

Vol. VI - N. 261

19 - XI - 1987



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STUDIES ON THE COLYDIIDAE (COLEOPTERA,
TENEBRIONOIDEA) OF NEW GUINEA.
PART II - GENUS *PSEUDENDESTES* LAWRENCE

Pseudendestes Lawrence is so far the only representative of the tribe Gempylodini to the fauna of New Guinea, and is well characterized by its elongate, subcylindrical body form, the mandibular bases concealed from above, the prosternal process parallel-sided, narrow and apparently narrower than coxal cavity and the metacoxae approximate. LAWRENCE (1980) proposed this genus to include two new species from Australia and New Guinea, and *Endestes andrewesi* Grouvelle from India, which had the supraorbital and supraantennal carinae widely separated, the elytron with only 7 punctate rows of striae and three carinae and the pronotal disc with two pairs of carinae. PAL (1984) described two additional species from India, one of them is here synonymized with *P. andrewesi* (Grouvelle).

I thank John F. Lawrence (CSIRO, Canberra, Australian National Insect Collection - ANIC) and Tarun K. Pal (Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta - ZSI) for loan of type material and Roberto Poggi (Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Genova - MSNG) for kind cooperation.

***Pseudendestes* Lawrence**

Pseudendestes Lawrence, 1980: 298. Type-species, by original designation: *Pseudendestes australis* Lawrence, 1980.

Diagnosis and description of adult and larva see LAWRENCE, 1980: 298-305.

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***Pseudendestes robertsi* Lawrence**

Pseudendestes robertsi Lawrence, 1980: 301. Holotype « Papua New Guinea »: Stony Logging Area near Bulolo, Morobe Prov. (ANIC, not examined).

Diagnostic combination

Dark-brown to black; patches of fine pile covering much of dorsal surface which appears yellowish-grey and mat; pile also occurs on all raised parts of head, pronotum and elytra including margins, antennomeres I-VIII, tibiae and partly ventral surface. Antenna with antennal club indistinct, 5 or 6 segmented, all segments densely hairy, covered by long and short setae with addition to pile; supraantennal and supraorbital carinae moderately strongly developed, well separated. Pronotum 1.2 x as long as wide, widest slightly before middle; admedian carinae complete, slightly curved anteriorly and posteriorly, the sublateral ones undulate, weakly emarginate near middle, incomplete. Pronotal disk convex, densely tuberculate; median groove indistinct, shallow pit located at posterior 2/5. Scutellum wide, pentagonal, strongly produced anteriorly. Elytra 2.5 x as long as wide and 2.25 x as long as pronotum, sides subparallel, apices subtruncate, not at all emarginate.

Length 8.5-9.6 mm.

Biology. This species has been recorded only from galleries of the platypodid beetle *Crossotarsus biconcavus* Shedd in established galleries containing young teneral, pupae and last instar larvae of the platypodid.

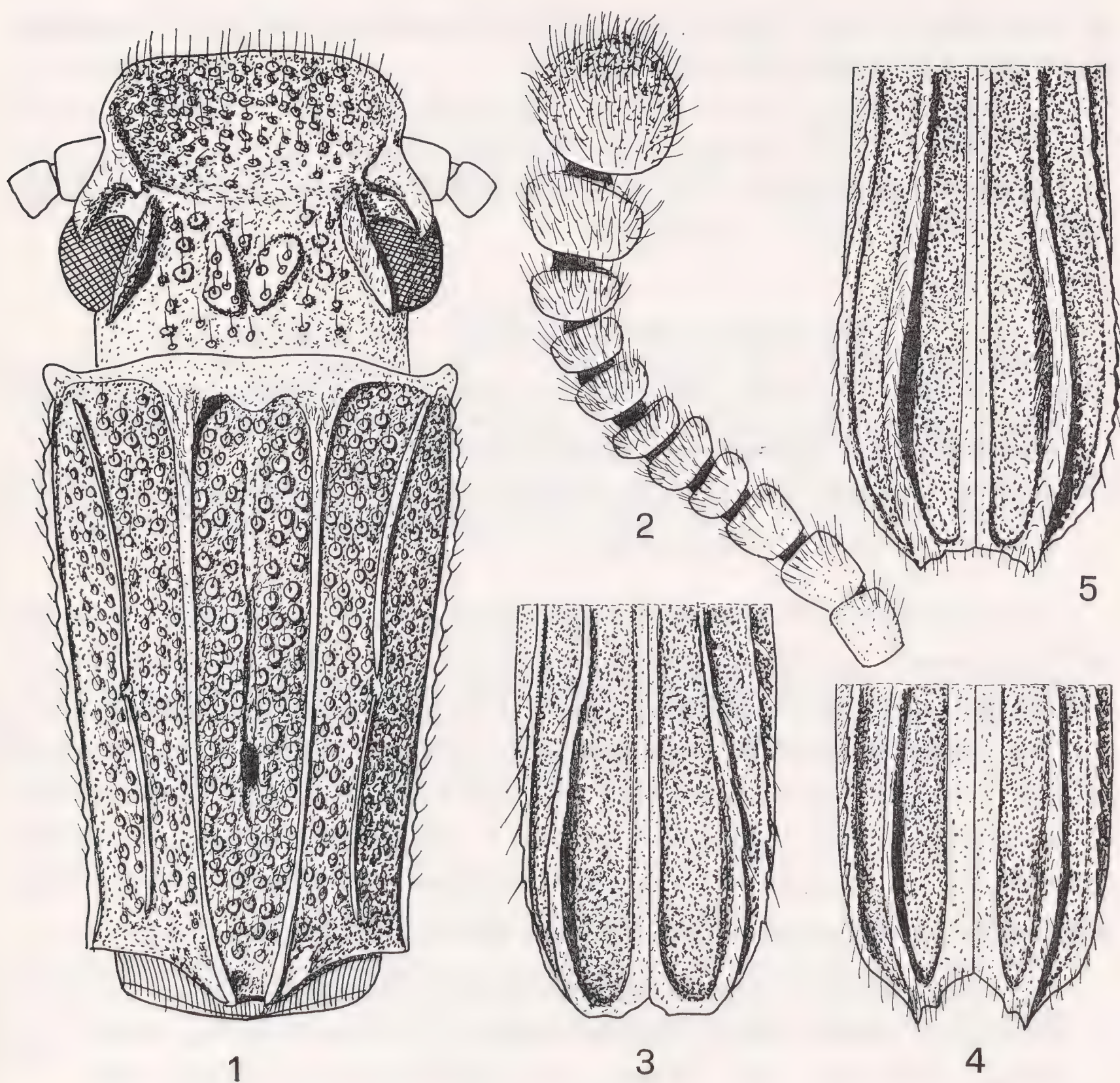
Distribution: New Guinea (Papua).

Material examined: paratype with data as holotype above (Inst. Zool. Warszawa).

***Pseudendestes papuanus* Slipinski et Poggi sp. n.**

Diagnostic combination

Dark-brown, surface moderately shiny, sparsely setose; pile occurring mainly on supraorbital carinae and anterior part of admedian pronotal carinae and posterior parts of inner elytral carinae. Head with both supraantennal and supraorbital carinae sharply developed (as in *australis*); clypeus weakly emarginate anteriorly, labrum hidden; frons with two irregular admedian flat tubercles and several smaller ones laterally (fig. 1). Antenna (fig. 2) with indistinct 2-segmented club, sparsely setose, antennomeres I-VIII without pile. Pronotum 1.6 x as long as wide, widest at apex, sides slightly diverging; anterior angles



Figs 1-5 - *Pseudendestes* species: 1-3 - *P. papuanus*; 4 - *P. australis*; 5 - *P. andrewesi*. 1: head and pronotum; 2: antenna; 3-5: elytral apices.

prominent, obtusely acute, posterior ones almost rectangular; lateral edges serrulate; pronotal disk with admedian carinae complete slightly diverging anteriorly, the sublateral ones more or less parallel to admedian ones, undulate, emarginate, almost broken medially (fig. 1); disc coarsely punctured, punctures subcontiguous; elongate pit located at posterior $2/5$, joined to narrow, irregular median groove, reaching anteriorly almost to anterior edge. Scutellum narrowly elongate, only slightly produced anteriorly. Elytra 3.1 x as long as wide and 2.1 x as long as pronotum, subparallel with apices widely rounded to apicosutural angles, not emarginate (fig. 3); each elytron with 3 carinae and 7 rows

of punctures; elytral tubercles along intervals small and as in *P. australis*. Ventral side as in *P. australis*.

Length 5.8 mm.

Material examined: Holotype « N. Guinea S. E., Moroka, 1300 m, Loria, VII-XI /18/95 » (MSNG).

[*Pseudendestes andrewesi* (Grouvelle):]

Endestes Andrewesi Grouvelle, 1908: 100. Lectotype, S.A. Ślipinski, present designation, « Nilgiri Hills / 1337 / Type / *Endestes Andrewesi* Grouv. » (MNHN, Paris, examined). - In *Pseudendestes*: Lawrence, 1980: 299.

Pseudendestes lawrencei Pal, 1984: 32. Holotype « Sunksal S. Kanara Div. Bombay, 9.XI.29. B.M. Bhatia / *Pseudendestes lawrencei* Pal, det. T.K. Pal / Holotype » (ZSI, examined), S.A. Ślipinski, syn. n.

Unfortunately *P. lawrencei* must be considered as a junior synonym of *P. andrewesi*, and the synonymy proposed before has been established by comparing both the primary types. The only character used in PAL's key to distinguish both these species – the antennal club composed of 2 or 3 antennomeres, is not very useful in Gempylodini because usually it is indistinct and segments IX and X are often strongly transverse and might be considered as a club, especially in females where those segments are apparently shorter than those in males.

Revised key to the species of *Pseudendestes*

1. Pronotum widest near middle, about 1.2 x as long as wide; dense, yellowish pile covering all raised areas on dorsal side, partly surface and margins. New Guinea .. *P. robertsi* Lawrence
- Pronotum at least 1.5 x as long as wide, widest at apex; dense pile, if present, localised only on supraorbital carinae, anterior part of pronotal carinae and elytral carinae apically 2
2. Elytra 4.7 x as long as wide, each elytron with four carinae. India, Arunachal Pradesh *P. namdaphaensis* Pal.
- Elytra 3-3.5 x as long as wide, each with three carinae 3
3. Elytral apices deeply emarginate apically (fig. 4); scutellum wide, pentagonal. Australia: Queensland *P. australis* Lawrence
- Elytral apices obtusely rounded or weakly emarginate (figs. 3, 5). Scutellum narrow, almost triangular 4
4. Elytral apices obtusely rounded (fig. 3); supraorbital carinae on head sharply developed; yellowish pile situated on supraorbital

- carinae, admedian carinae anteriorly and inner elytral carinae apically *P. papuanus* Šlipinski et Poggi sp. n.
- Elytral apices weakly emarginate (fig. 5); supraorbital carinae on head weakly developed; yellowish pile present only on inner carinae of elytra apically. South India *P. andrewesi* (Grouvelle).

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SUMMARY

The New Guinean members of the genus *Pseudendestes* Lawrence are reviewed and a revised key to the World species of this genus is provided. *Pseudendestes papuanus* Šlipinski et Poggi is described as a new for science, while *Pseudendestes lawrencei* Pal is synonymized with *P. andrewesi* (Grouvelle).

RIASSUNTO

Viene fornita una revisione delle specie di Nuova Guinea appartenenti al genere *Pseudendestes* Lawrence, corredata da una tabella di identificazione delle specie mondiali attribuite al genere. *Pseudendestes papuanus* Šlipinski e Poggi è descritto come specie nuova mentre *P. lawrencei* Pal 1984 è ritenuto sinonimo di *P. andrewesi* (Grouvelle 1908).
